

STUFF

By Malu Janssen



LOGLINE

When Helen suffers a break-in in her home, she discovers that she has lost a part of herself that is not easy to replace.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

When there is a break-in in her home, interior buyer Helen is in shock. She secretly mourns for her lost belongings with which she had intimate relationships. With this theft, she discovers that she has lost a part of herself that is not easy to replace. When she invites her friends over for an evening re-decorating her house, her detachment of her surrounding leads to a lurid finale.

SPECS

Dutch title: *STUFF*

English title: *STUFF*

Genre: Short Film, Drama

Length: 13:24 min

Screening format: DCP

Aspect Ratio: 1:1.85

Frame Rate: 25

Sound: 5.1

DCP resolution: 2K

Spoken language: Dutch

Subtitles: Dutch, English

Film website: www.malujanssen.com/stuff

Website IJswater Films: <http://www.ijswater.nl/producties/smaak/>

CREDITS

Produced within Kort! – in coproduction with NTR, in collaboration with Netherlands Film Fund, NPO-fund and CoBO

Directed & Written by

Malu Janssen

Cast

Helen

Georgina Verbaan

Tibs

Mahfoud Mokedem

Noura

Jasmine Sendar

Seji

Tomer Pawlicki

Wouter

Koen Wouterse

D.O.P.

Sam du Pon

Production Design

Tim Balk

Editor

Nina Graafland

Sound Design

Jacob Oostra

Original Music

Pyke Pasman

Line Producer

Thom Arends

Production Manager

Jasper Pol

Art director

Emma Eberlijn

Sound on set

Daimo da Costa

Wardrobe

Mariëlla Kallenberg

Hair & Make-up

Ivette van Luijk

Project Supervisor

Eline van Hagen

Produced by

Marc Bary & Steven Rubinstein Malamud

Production Company

IJswater Films, Amsterdam



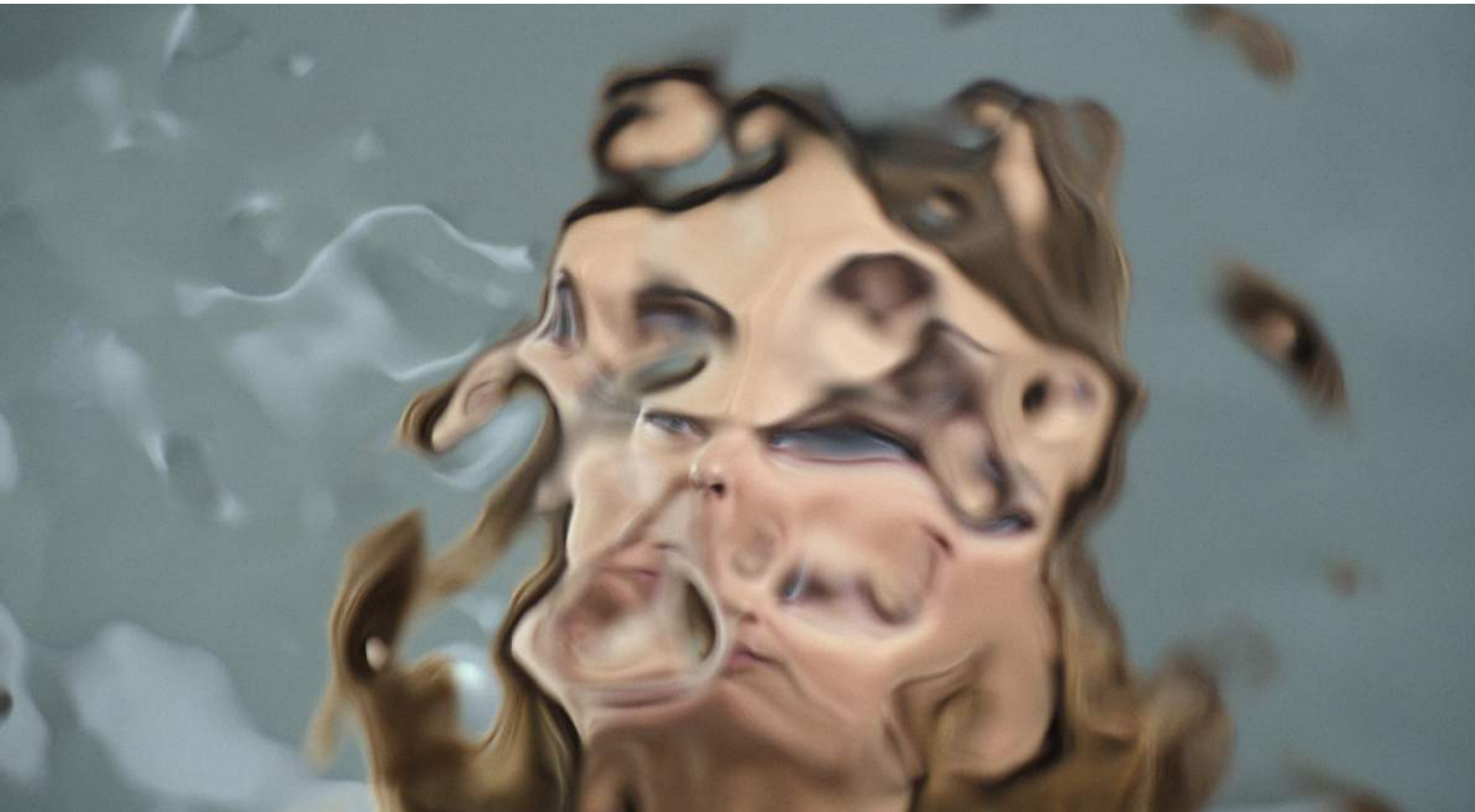
NOTE OF INTENT

STUFF is a 13 minute film that I would describe as a minimalist psychological drama with dark comedy notes, about a woman's far reaching love for her design objects.

To me this film examines the complex relationships we can have with our belongings. The STUFF we collect during our lifetime grows in kind as we develop as a person. We can get so attached to some objects, that we create an emotional bond with them. We can strongly identify with our belongings, or they can be an expression of how we would like to be. When we lose or break a beloved item, it can feel like a part of ourselves is missing and we can experience genuine grief.

HELEN too, identifies herself so strongly with the items in her interior, which she has curated strictly, that part of herself was taken away with the theft of her stuff. She tries to fill the void that remains, but without success. Confronted with her loss of identity, she sees only one more way to really become one with what she loves.

STUFF is a note on our nowadays consumerism. Our economy runs on consumption and consuming can be an addiction, almost like an insatiable hunger. You could call materialism a modern disease, like a psychological counterpart of obesity.



DIRECTOR BIOGRAPHY

Malu Janssen (1989) is a director and screenwriter living in Amsterdam. She studied theater and film studies at Utrecht University before entering the Netherlands Film Academy where she graduated in 2016.

Her graduation film *OUR OWN* (Eigen, original title) is a short film about identical twin sisters trying to find an identity of their own during a spiritual retreat. *OUR OWN* premiered at the Internationale Kurzfilmtage Winterthur before traveling around to other festivals like Palm Springs Shortfest.

Her new short *STUFF*, about a woman's far reaching love for her design objects, had its international premiere at Palm Springs Shortfest 2020, won the award for Best International Short at SESIFF Seoul film festival and will be part of the official selection at Raindance 2020.

Currently she is cowriting her first feature film *THE DUMPED*, about a girl trying to protect her unborn baby in the dark depth of an underground waste dump. *The Dumped* was presented at the Cinemart of 2020 at IFFR. Malu aspires to make films that engage with their audiences and that don't only appeal to the emotions, but even more to the mind. She likes both realism and surrealism in order to explore the ways of people.



www.malujanssen.com

FILMOGRAPHY - Malu Janssen

2020 Director/writer **THE DUMPED** (*De Afvalligen*) (in development)
2019 Director/writer **STUFF** (13 min.) – produced within Kort! 2019 (Short! 2019)

National premiere at Netherlands Film Festival, 2019

Palm Springs Shortfest 2020, 16-22 juni, international competition for best short

SESIFF Seoul Extreme Short Image and Film Festival

Won: award for Best International Short

Seoul, Republic of Korea, 15-20 september

TISFF Thessaloniki International Short Film Festival

Thessaloniki, Griekenland, official selection, 8 – 24 oktober

Rabat International Author Film Festival

Rabat, Morocco, official selection, 23-31 oktober

Raindance Film Festival

Londen, UK, official selection as part of the Gone Astray program, 28 okt – 7 november

Leiden International Film Festival

Leiden, Nederland, official selection, 29 okt – 8 nov

Pune Short Film Festival

Pune India, official selection, 27 nov – 1 dec

Fickin' International Film Festival Kinshasa,

Kinshasa, Congo, official selection, 10-14 november

2016 Director **OUR OWN** (original title: Eigen) (28 min.) - graduation film, Netherlands Film Academy
- Film Festival Winterthur, international competition
- Uitmarkt Amsterdam
- Nomination Dioraphte Award for directing, at Netherlands Film Festival
- Best debut price at Eindhoven Film Festival
- Nomination Vers Award 2016 – price for best cinematography 2016
- Sas van Gent Filmfestival
- Suikerzoet Film Festival
- Go Short Nijmegen, international students competition
- Crossing Europe, selection Cinema Next Europe competition
- Palm Springs International Short Film Festival, international competition
- Konstanzer Kurz Film Spiele, international competition
- Hyperfest Romania, international competition
- International Film Festival Etiuda&Anima, international competition – honorable mention Jury and price for best filmacademy based on *OUR OWN*.

2016 Director **KINGFISHER** - videoclip for Jungle By Night

2015 Director **FEBRUARI HYMNE** (18 min.) – 3^e year film, Netherlands Film Academy

2014 Director **CRABDANCE** (*Krabbendans*) (24 min.) – short film

2014 Director **ATTILA** - videoclip, for Jungle By Night

INFO / CONTACT

Production Company:

IJswater Films

Kromme Mijdrechtstraat 110/2 - 1079 LD Amsterdam

Tel +31 (0)20 4421760 - films@ijswater.nl - www.ijswater.nl

Director:

Malu Janssen

malu.janssen@hotmail.com

T: +31 640792327

www.malujanssen.com

